

REMARKS

Claims 16-18, 20-21 and 29-34 are pending in the application. Claims 16, 29 and 34 are amended, and claim 33 is cancelled. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and the foregoing remarks.

1. Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indication that claim 33 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 16 to include the patentable subject matter in claim 33. Claims 17-18, 20-21 and 32 depend on claim 16 and are believed allowable for the same reasons that claim 16 is allowed. Accordingly, allowance of claims 16-18, 20-21 and 32 is respectfully requested.

2. Rejections in view of the alleged prior art

Claims 29 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,500,675 to Goodwin. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 29 as amended recites a disc gang assembly that includes, *inter alia*, a disc gang comprising a plurality of ground engaging rotary discs which are supported on a support beam and which are configured to rotate about an axis that extends at a gang angle relative to a perpendicular to a draft direction, the disc gang disposed forward of a mainframe with respect to the draft direction. For reasons similar to those for claim 16 and as indicated by the Examiner, none of the cited references discloses

this patentable subject matter. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 29 is respectfully requested.

Claims 30 and 31 depend directly from claim 29 are believed allowable for the same reasons that claim 29 is allowed. Claims 30 and 31 may also include patentable subject matter in addition to that recited in claim 29.

Claim 34 as amended recites a disc gang assembly that comprises, inter alia, a pair of adjacent disc gangs supported on a corresponding pair of frames, each disc gang is pivotally connected to the implement mainframe at a location adjacent the other disc gang so as to permit said gang angle of each disc gang to be infinitely adjusted through a range of at least 3° while maintaining substantial linear alignment with the other disc gang, where each disc gang is disposed forward of said mainframe with respect to said draft direction. For reasons similar to those for claim 16 and as indicated by the Examiner, none of the cited references discloses this patentable subject matter. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 34 is respectfully requested.

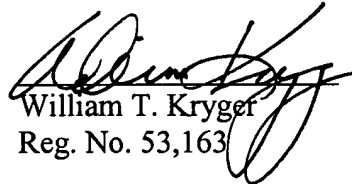
CONCLUSION

It is submitted that claims 16-18, 20-21, 29-32 and 34 define patentable subject matter. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due with this communication. Nevertheless, should the Examiner consider any fees to be payable in conjunction with this or any future communication, authorization is given to direct payment of such fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it would help expedite matters.

Respectfully submitted,


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